

The Acting Assistant Minister for Security Policy, Ambassador Branimir Filipovic, had talks today with Admiral James Foggo, Commander of Allied Joint Force Command Naples, who is on a visit to the Republic of Serbia during which he also met Defence Minister Aleksandar Vulin and Chief of the General Staff of the Serbian Armed Forces, General Ljubisa Dikovic.

During the meeting at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the interlocutors expressed mutual satisfaction with the existing level and dynamic of the development of Serbia – NATO relations, confirmed by intensive political dialogue at the highest and other levels, and successful practical cooperation in many areas, carried out in the mutual interest within the framework of NATO Partnership for Peace programme.

The two sides discussed the possibilities for further promoting the existing cooperation in line with Serbia's policy of military neutrality, fully respected by NATO.

Views were also exchanged on the political and security situation in the region, the situation in Kosovo and Metohija, as well as the current security challenges and threats.

Ambassador Filipovic noted the successful cooperation between the Serbian Armed Forces and KFOR, underlining KFOR's key role for the security and stability in the Province, as well as the fact that its unabated presence in Kosovo and Metohija and discharge of its mandate under UNSC resolution 1244 (1999) are the guarantee of the security of Serbs and the preservation of their cultural and religious heritage in the Province. The opportunity was further taken to confirm the commitment of the Republic of Serbia to regional cooperation, aimed at safeguarding peace and stability, and further enhancement of economic development of the entire region.